



**Southwell
Minster**

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service**
Creating Safer Communities



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
POLICE
PROUD TO SERVE

NHS
East Midlands
Ambulance Service
NHS Trust



Nottinghamshire Emergency Services'

FAMILY CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Wednesday 8 December 2021
7.00pm

Welcome to Southwell Minster



As you prepare for worship, please be sensitive to the needs of those around you who may wish to pray in silence. Please switch off mobile telephones and do not use photographic, video or recording equipment at any time.



A loop system is in operation throughout the Minster. Hearing aids that are equipped to do so should be switched to the 'T' position or the loop setting appropriate to your equipment.



Large print orders of service are available. Please ask a Churchwarden, Sidesman or Verger for a copy.



Toilet facilities (including disabled access) are situated in the Archbishop's Palace, opposite the South Door of the Minster.



We are a Fairtrade cathedral, committed to continuing and increasing our use of fairly traded goods wherever possible.

The congregation is invited to join in all texts printed in **bold**.

Worshippers are asked to wear a face covering when entering and leaving, and when receiving Communion, but to feel free to remove them when in their places. We also ask all those visiting the Cathedral to check in using the NHS Covid-19 app on entry if possible, and to continue to observe some social distancing in the building. Please be mindful of the needs of other worshippers who may be vulnerable to the virus.

Collection



**THE
AMBULANCE
STAFF
CHARITY**

TASC is a leading UK charity supporting our hardworking ambulance community. We support staff and their families in all areas, including NHS, independent services and staff not on the front-line. Our services are independent and confidential and include:

Psychological rehabilitation and counselling, including stress and PTSD support, Physical rehabilitation, Debt advice and financial grants, Bereavement support, Welfare and other support.

To donate online please use the QR code alternatively place your donation in one of the collection plates.



Clergy at this Service

This service is led by the Revd Dr Richard Frith, *Canon Precentor*.
The preacher is the Rt Revd Dr Andrew Emerton, *Bishop of Sherwood*.

Music at this Service

Music at this service is provided by the Nottingham Hospitals Choir and the Nottinghamshire Police Band.

Welcome by The Revd Kevin Charles, Chaplain to East Midlands Ambulance Service, on behalf of the Emergency Service Chaplaincy

A very warm welcome to Southwell Minster and this year's Emergency Services Carol Service. Emergency services work be it Ambulance, Fire and Rescue or Police work is a unique role. It can be classed as more of a vocation than an occupation. Encountering people and dealing with human behaviour at its worst with regards to behaviour towards one another and the tragic circumstances that life can bring about demands much in all manner of ways and requires skill, expertise, commitment and dedication to deal with what they encounter.

Commitment, tenacity, integrity and dedication are the personal qualities that together with professional skills, sustain all in the provision that ambulance, fire and police work requires at whatever level. This has been especially shown during these past months due to the Covid pandemic.

During these pandemic hit months it is likely that many of you here tonight will have been affected by your work, directly or indirectly, or through things you have seen first-hand or heard from others. Therefore this evening is an opportunity for us to come together away from the working environment, and to take time to reflect through readings, carols and prayers on the journeys undertaken by Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and the three wise men.

We are very thankful to all those who have given their time to make this event memorable which, like no other Emergency Services Carol Service, has had its understandable difficulties to put together this year.

On behalf of the Chaplaincy Team we wish you all a very peaceful Christmas and please do 'Take care of yourselves and each other'

Music before the Service

played by the Nottinghamshire Police Band

ORDER OF SERVICE

Please stand

PROCESSIONAL MUSIC *played by the Nottinghamshire Police Band during which the Lord-Lieutenant, High Sheriff, Chief Officers and clergy enter*

Pomp and Circumstances No 4

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

The Canon Precentor welcomes the congregation and introduces the service.

CAROL

The first verse is sung as a solo by the NHS Hospitals Choir, during which the Emergency Services Candle is lit. Symbols of the three Services are brought in during the second verse and placed on the Altar, and Colours of the three Services are brought to the Altar during the third verse.

Solo Once in royal David's city
 Stood a lowly cattle shed,
 Where a mother laid her baby
 In a manger for his bed:
 Mary was that mother mild,
 Jesus Christ her little child.

All **He came down to earth from heaven**
 Who is God and Lord of all,
 And his shelter was a stable,
 And his cradle was a stall;
 With the poor and mean and lowly
 Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

3. And through all his wondrous childhood
He would honour and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden,
In whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as he.

4. For he is our childhood's pattern,
Day by day like us he grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew:
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.

5. And our eyes at last shall see him,
Through his own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.

6. Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-95)

Tune: IRBY CC2 30

Henry John Gauntlett (1805-76)

arr. Arthur Henry Mann (1850-1929)

Please sit

FIRST READING

'In the Beginning'

read by a representative from Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue

Our story begins a long time ago. In fact, a very long time ago, because our story begins at the beginning.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. He made the stars and the planets. He made the Sun and the Moon. He made the sea and the land. He made the plants and the animals. He made people, men and women. And God said, 'This is good, very good!' God loved his world. He loved his people. He loved everything he had made.

But! But his people turned away from him. They thought they knew better than God. They thought they didn't need God and so things started to go wrong on the earth. People started fighting. People started to be selfish. People started to be greedy and God was sad, very sad. He knew that he would have to do something about it.

But what? What could he do?

Please stand

CAROL

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by:
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

2. O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary;
And, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.

3. How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him,
Still the dear Christ enters in.

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us to-day.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-93)

Tune: FOREST GREEN CC1 27

English traditional

arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Please sit

CAROL *sung the Nottingham Hospitals Choir*

The Holly and the Ivy

Arr. Matthew Owens (b. 1971)

SECOND READING

'Mary and the Angel'

read by a representative from Nottinghamshire Police

Many years later a young girl was sitting at home. She lived in a town called Nazareth in a region called Galilee. Mary loved God. She prayed to him. She worshipped him. She longed for him to fulfil his promise and come to put the world right. As she sat at home suddenly a bright light appeared shining all around the room. Mary was frightened and didn't know what to do. But then, out of the light, a voice spoke.

'Do not be afraid Mary. I bring you greetings from God. God has seen you and the way you pray; he is very pleased with you. You will become pregnant and have a son. He will be called the Son of God and you must call him Jesus. He will be great and will be a great King on earth and in heaven.'

Mary did not understand these words. 'How can this happen?' she asked.

'The Holy Spirit will touch you,' the voice said, 'and the power of God will surround you. That is why the baby will be called the Son of God.' Mary bowed her head. 'I am God's servant,' she said, 'let it be as you have said.'

Please stand

CAROL

1. In the bleak midwinter
Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone:
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter,
Long ago.

2. Our God, heaven cannot hold him
Nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When he comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter
A stable-place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.

3. Enough for him, whom Cherubim
Worship night and day,
A breast full of milk,
And a mangerful of hay:
Enough for him, whom angels
Fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel
Which adore.

4. Angels and archangels
May have gathered there,
Cherubim and Seraphim
Thronged the air
But only his mother
In her maiden bliss
Worshipped the Beloved
With a kiss.

5. What can I give him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man
I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him
Give my heart.

Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-94) Tune: CRANHAM NEH 28

Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

Please sit

read by a representative from EMAS

In those days the Roman Emperor decided to count everyone in his empire. All the men and their wives, or the women they were going to marry, had to go to their family home to be counted.

Mary was going to marry Joseph and Joseph was from Bethlehem. So early one morning they set out on the long journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. It was nearly time for Mary's baby to be born and the journey on the donkey was very bumpy and uncomfortable. The longer the journey went on the more Mary wondered if her baby would be born by the side of the road.

Eventually they reached Bethlehem. Mary hoped for a room and a bed and rest. But as hard as Joseph tried, there was no room to be found. Everywhere was full.

One kind inn keeper offered them a stable and, although Joseph couldn't bear the thought of Mary sleeping with the animals, he had to say yes. There was nowhere else to go! During the night the time came for the baby to be born. Mary gave birth to a son and she wrapped him up in cloths and laid him in the manger on the straw that the animals eat.

MUSIC PIECE *played by Nottinghamshire Police Band*

Little Drummer Boy

Arr. Philip Sparke (b. 1951)

FOURTH READING

'The Shepherds'

read by Deputy Chief Constable

Just outside of Bethlehem there were shepherds in the fields keeping watch over their sheep. It was night; but suddenly a bright light shone all around them and an angel appeared in front of them. They were very frightened.

'Don't be afraid, shepherds,' the angel said, 'I have come to bring you good news. Good news that will make you and all people on earth happy. For to you in David's town this night the saviour has been born who is called Christ the Lord. Go to Bethlehem and you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.'

Suddenly hundreds of angels appeared all singing and praising God. They sang: 'Glory to God in the heavens and peace to all people on earth.'

When the angels had gone the shepherds ran to the town. They looked in every stable and in every manger until they found the baby. It was just as the angel had said. He was wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.

The shepherds were overjoyed and went back to their sheep singing and praising God and telling everyone they met about the angels and the baby in the manger.

Please stand

CAROL *during which a collection is taken, net proceeds of which will support the work of the The Ambulance Service Charity.*

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him
Born the King of Angels:
*O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!*

God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God,
Begotten, not created:
O come, let us adore him...

See how the Shepherds,
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps:
O come, let us adore him...

Child, for us sinners
Poor and in the manger,
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;
Who would not love thee,
Loving us so dearly?
O come, let us adore him...

Sing, choirs of Angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God
In the Highest:
O come, let us adore him...

Words: Latin, 18th century
trans. Frederick Oakeley (1802-80),
William Thomas Brooke (1848-1917) et al.

Tune: ADESTE FIDELES CC1 26
John Francis Wade (c.1711-86)
arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Please sit when invited by the preacher.

ADDRESS given by the Bishop of Sherwood

Please remain seated

MUSIC PIECE sung by Nottingham Hospitals Choir

My Lord has come

Arr. Will Todd (b. 1970)

Please remain seated or kneel

PRAYERS led by children from the Crossing

Please stand

BLESSING given by the Bishop

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary
and the people of the Christ-child
be yours this Christmas;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

CAROL *during which the Colours of the three Services are collected*

**Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With the angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Off-spring of a Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the God-head see,
Hail th'incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.**

*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

**Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n with healing in his wings;
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.**

*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88) et al.

*Tune: MENDELSSOHN CC1 14
Felix Mendelssohn (1808-47)*

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

**God save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen!
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save the Queen!**

*Tune: NATIONAL ANTHEM NEH 489
English traditional
arr. Gordon Jacob (1895-1984)*

MUSIC played by the Nottinghamshire Police Band as clergy process out.

I saw Mammy Kissing Santa Claus

Traditional, arr. John Jones

All are invited to stay for refreshments after the service in the Crossing.

Wishing you a very happy Christmas.

Thank you to all those involved in helping with this year's Emergency Services Family Christmas Carol Service. Special thanks go to:

The Nottingham Hospitals Choir

Musical Director: Nick Millburn

Accompanist: Chris Ebborn

Nottinghamshire Police Band

Musical Director: Peter Stockdale MBE

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Would you like to hear more about news, services, concerts and/or events taking place at the Minster?

Join our mailing list by emailing marketing@southwellminster.org.uk.

Please take this order of service away with you.

Acknowledgements

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